Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, All citizens desire and deserve the opportunity to participate meaningfully in all aspects of their community, including their neighborhood, the workplace, and the schools; and,

Whereas, Our communities can grow closer through education, awareness, and understanding, and benefit from recognizing not only each other's abilities, but our commonalities and differences; and,

Whereas, Our communities need to be made more aware of the capabilities of individuals with mental illness in order to provide opportunities for them in their communities; and,

Whereas, It is in the public's best interest to offer individuals with mental illness the opportunity to make decisions for themselves and to live and work in our communities where they can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens; and,

Whereas, Individuals with mental health issues deserve nothing less:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2004, as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens to observe the month by participating in appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State